

Japanese Merchant Marine Officers Visit in Medford, Jacksonville Area

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Staff Writer
Five gentlemen from Japan visited the Rogue valley recently.

Five merchant marine officers from the Japanese freighter, Ryuyo Maru, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Webster, 810 South Oakdale ave., Medford. They toured Jacksonville in a stage coach, visited the C. C. Beckman

home, the renovated Max Mueller house (Mr. and Mrs. George Brewer's home) and the Jacksonville museum.

The officers were Chief Engineer Mura, Chief Radio Operator Tsujimura, Dr. Suzuki, ship's surgeon, Assistant Radio Operator Ichimomiya and Purser Nakajima.

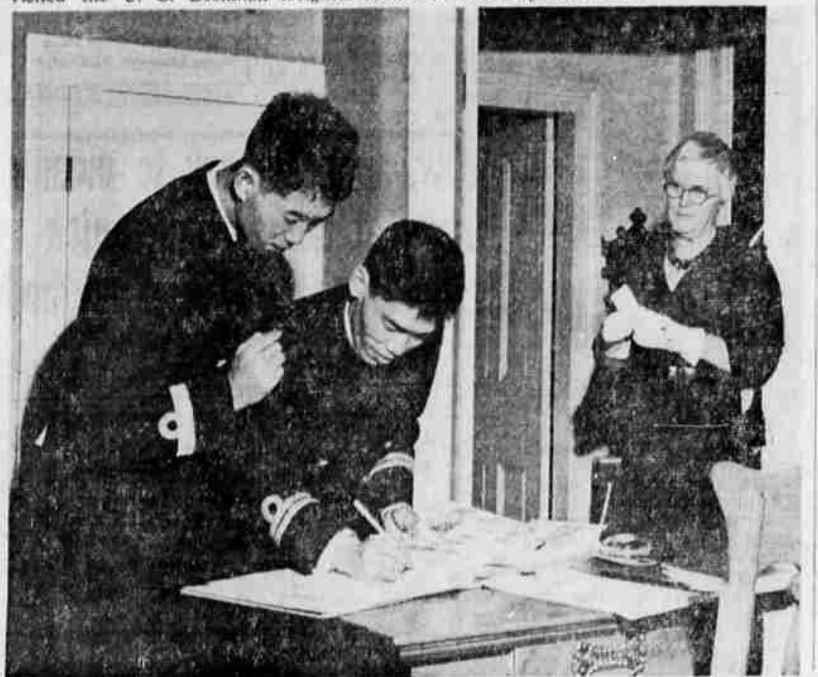
Guests in Coos Bay
Soon after the Japanese freighter docked in Coos Bay to take on a load of logs and timbers, the officers were guests of Mrs. George Larsson and Mrs. Edna Going in Coos Bay. At the Larsson home they had a sukiyaki dinner from ingredients brought by the Japanese officers. (The two Coos Bay women are friends of Mrs. Webster, the former Mrs. Eve Prentice, once head of an accordion band here.)

The Japanese officers brought gifts as is the Japanese custom when renewing friendships.

The Japanese officers, ranging in ages from 23 to about 34 years, chattered excitedly as they clambered up on George McUre's stagecoach at his Pioneer Village at Jacksonville. They toured the village before they climbed into the stagecoach with Jacksonville Mayor E. O. Graham and the Websters. The mayor acted as official greeter.

Glance at Stagecoach
Jacksonville residents glanced at the stagecoach with bored curiosity then open surprise when they spotted the gold-braided uniforms of the Japanese. Camera shutters clicked furiously in Japanese hands as a "hold-up man" rode up brandishing a rifle and demanding the "money satchel."

The merchant marine officers examined the contents of the Beckman house with interest, signed the guest register elaborately in English and put Japanese characters after their names. Articles pointed out to them by Mrs. Brewer as being 100 years old seemed almost brand new in terms of the many centuries old Japanese civilization.



Ranch Manager Eddie Meeker took the group on a tour of David Holmes' Arrowhead ranch on the Phoenix-Hillcrest rd.

Size of Farm
Dr. Suzuki noted that the smallest pasture on the Arrowhead ranch is about the size of a Japanese farm. He has been studying English at

the Coos Bay High school each trip and walks the eight-mile round trip to his class. His hometown is Hiroshima.

The Websters became acquainted with the Japanese officers when they asked to tour the freighter at Coos Bay while visiting friends there. The Japanese gave them a party in the stateroom and presented them with gifts. One of these was an oil painting of a vase of flowers made by the chief radio operator.

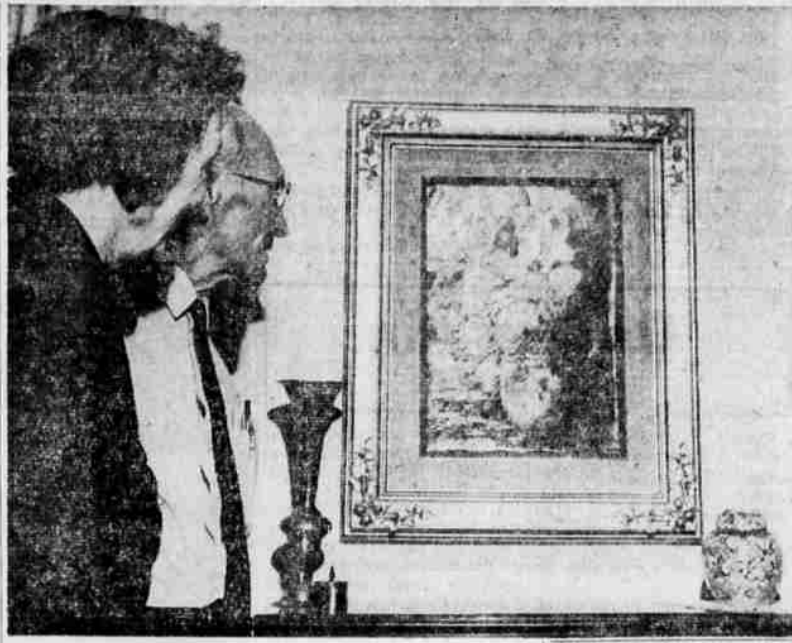
Adult Course in Woods Survival To Start Monday

A nine-hour adult-level course in wilderness survival, conducted by Naturalist Odd Bjerke, will begin Monday evening at Medford High school.

The course, particularly for the benefit of sportsmen, pilots and camping families, will cover all phases of wilderness survival, including recognition of edible wild plants, primitive shelter construction, improvised fishing and hunting methods, (without firearms) and the psychological effects on persons "lost" in the woods.

Bjerke, who has lived as long as 40 days in the wilderness without food, feels that every American should become acquainted with at least the basic principles of survival. He said such knowledge could be compared to a life insurance policy.

Registration for Course
Registration for the course, to be held in room 249 at the high school, will be accepted Monday evening prior to the first class session, which begins at 7 p.m. Fee for the course, which will run for three consecutive evenings, is \$10 per person.



JAPANESE PAINTING—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Webster, 810 South Oakdale ave., are shown standing beside a painting presented them by an officer from a Japanese freighter. The Websters met five officers during a tour of the freighter at Coos Bay, brought the Japanese back to Medford with them, took them on a one-day tour of the Rogue valley and drove them back to Coos Bay.

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SIGN REGISTER — Purser Nakajima, left, and Assistant Radio Operator Ichimomiya, right, sign the register in Jacksonville's C. C. Beckman house as Mrs. Dwight Houghton, Medford, member of the Siskiyou Pioneer Sites Foundation, looks on. The Japanese were impressed with the furnishings of the early day Jacksonville home.

PRISONER RELEASED
St. Joseph, Md. — (AP) — Harlan Lee Akes, 25, was released from jail Friday when police learned burglary suspect Donald Cox had lied about Akes being an accomplice. "I didn't want to go to the penitentiary by myself," Cox explained.

20 SOLDIERS INJURED
Soltau, Germany — (AP) — More than 20 West German soldiers were injured Friday night, 10 of them seriously, when an Army car ploughed into a marching column near here, police announced.



VISIT RANCH—Purser Nakajima, from a Japanese freighter visiting Coos Bay, tours the Arrowhead ranch on Phoenix-Hillcrest rd. with Ranch Manager Eddie Meeker. He

and the other five Japanese merchant marine officers on the tour were impressed with the size of the ranch in contrast with the small Japanese farms.

Bjerke will use slides and movies to illustrate details of his lectures. Some of the slides will be of the recent survival trip which he led into the Three Sisters area, where 20 persons lived off the land for 10 days.

To many persons, the forest is a lonely and formidable

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place, where only wild things can exist, but man, with his superior intelligence, can adapt readily to such environment if he is properly trained, Bjerke said.

Although the short course is mainly for adults, Bjerke plans to start a training school for young men and women in the Medford area next summer. The courses will consist of 10 days of academic and field training in survival.

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